For Release: April 29, 2003 Contact: Dick Wadhams (202) 224-6207 John Wood (202) 224-5946

## ALLARD PROMOTES WAGNER TO BE NEW WESTERN SLOPE AREA DIRECTOR

MESA GRADUATE TO WORK OUT OF GRAND JUNCTION OFFICE

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) recently announced that Derek Wagner, of Grand Junction has been promoted to become the Colorado lawmaker's new Western Slope Area Director.

Allard also announced that Heather Gierhart, of Rangely has been hired as his new Western Slope Constituent Caseworker.

"I am pleased to announce the promotion of Derek Wagner to be my new Western Slope Area Director and the addition of Heather Gierhart to my Grand Junction office," Allard said. "Their experience and knowledge of Western Slope issues will be an asset to my office."

Wagner began working in Allard's Grand Junction office as a Constituent Caseworker in September of 2001 and was promoted to Area Representative in April of 2002. He joined Allard's Western Slope team shortly after graduating from Mesa State College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Sociology.

"I appreciate Senator Allard's confidence in my abilities and I am excited to continue serving the people of Western Colorado," Wagner said.

Gierhart joins the Grand Junction office after graduating in 2001 from the University of Wyoming with a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism and Political Science. She previously interned for Speaker of the House in the Wyoming State Legislature.

"I'm very excited to work with Senator Allard and look forward to serving the great people of the Western Slope," Gierhart said.